

3618

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : H. KETTLER et al

U.S. Patent No.: 6,378,884

Appln. No : 09/584,497

Issued: April 30, 2002

Filed : June 1, 2000

For : VEHICLE STEERING HEAD

**PETITION FOR CORRECTION OF  
INVENTORSHIP UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.324**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

**RECEIVED**  
JUN 24 2002  
**GROUP 3600**

Sir:

Patentee respectfully requests that the above-referenced patent be amended by adding the following inventors who were not originally named as inventors in good faith, through error, and without any deceptive intention:

**Joachim KETTLER** having a post office address of Hauptstrasse 28, D-59469 Ense-  
Parsit, Germany and **Reinhard ROCHOLL** having a post office address of Am  
Grueggelgraben 8, Postfach 1863, D-59448, Werl, Germany.

This petition is accompanied by: a Statement of Facts, verified by the newly named inventors, establishing how the error without deceptive intention occurred; a Statement verified by the originally named inventor agreeing to the change of inventorship; the written

consent of the Assignee; the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.20(b); an Assignment document executed by the newly added inventors; and a Supplemental Declaration by the actual inventors under 37 C.F.R. 1.63.

Petitioner notes that while the regulations no longer require a Statement of Facts showing how the error without deceptive intention occurred, in order to make abundantly clear that the error did in fact occur without deceptive intention, a Statement of Facts is being submitted along with this Petition. Additionally, while a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. 1.63 is not required for a Petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.324 filed in an issued patent, the Declaration is nevertheless being filed and the Commissioner is asked to enter the Declaration in the file of the above-mentioned patent.

A petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.324 requires:

- (1) a statement from each person being added as an inventor that the inventorship error occurred without any deceptive intention on his part;
- (2) a statement from the currently named inventor agreeing to the change of inventorship;
- (3) a statement from the assignee of the parties submitting the statement under paragraphs (1) and (2) above agreeing to the change of inventorship in the patent, which statement must comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 3.73(b); and
- (4) the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.20(b).

This petition complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.324 as follows:

(1) Newly added inventors Joachim KETTLER and Reinhard ROCHOLL have executed a statement to the effect that the inventorship error occurred without any deceptive intention on their part by virtue of the fact that they did not appreciate the fact that under U.S. patent laws, all inventors of subject matter claimed in a patent application must be named in an application for patent in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Details of the contributions of inventors Joachim KETTLER and Reinhard ROCHOLL to the claimed invention are outlined in their respective statements, which have side-by-side columns in German and English. Petitioner notes that the statements prepared for execution by newly added inventors Joachim KETTLER and Reinhard ROCHOLL consisted of pages numbered 1-3 and named P19246.A09DEC.doc and P19246.A10DEC.doc, respectively, which statements were sent to the inventors by e-mail. Based on information and belief, inventors Joachim KETTLER and Reinhard ROCHOLL printed out the statements, signed page number 3 of the statements and returned to the law firm of the undersigned only page 3 of the statements. In order to complete the filing of these statements, Petitioner has attached a paper copy of pages 1 and 2 of the statements of inventors Joachim KETTLER and Reinhard ROCHOLL to the facsimile transmitted copy of page 3 of the respective inventors before filing this petition in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. While Petitioner believes that the so-combined pages 1-3 of the statements of inventors Joachim KETTLER and

Reinhard ROCHOLL constitute a proper submission of the statements, the deciding official is invited to contact the undersigned for any requested re-submission of these statements.

(2) In a statement from the currently named inventor, Heinz KETTLER, he indicates his agreement to the change of inventorship, i.e., the addition of Joachim KETTLER and Reinhard ROCHOLL as co-inventors of the invention claimed in the above-identified patent. The statement, which has side-by-side columns in German and English, additionally includes details of the contribution of inventor Heinz KETTLER to the invention claimed in the above-identified patent.

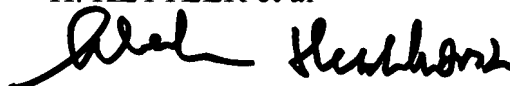
(3) The current inventor, Heinz KETTLER, has assigned his rights to the invention to the company Heinz Kettler GMBH & Co. by virtue of an Assignment recorded on June 1, 2000 at Reel 010858 and Frame 0316. The newly added inventors, Joachim KETTLER and Reinhard ROCHOLL, have assigned their rights to the invention to the same company Heinz Kettler GMBH & Co. by virtue of an Assignment executed on May 27, 2002, which Assignment is being concurrently filed herewith for recordation in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. In a Consent from the assignee of the parties submitting the statement under paragraphs (1) and (2) above, i.e., the company Heinz Kettler GMBH & Co., Manfred SAUER, Vice President of the company, indicates the consent of the Assignee to the change of inventorship in the patent. The Consent is in full compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 3.73(b).

(4) The \$130.00 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.20(b) is enclosed herewith. Please charge any additional fees necessary for consideration of the papers filed herein and refund excess payments to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

In view of the above showing, grant of the Petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.324 is respectfully requested. Upon grant of the petition, Patentee will file a Certificate of Correction, to ensure that the corrected inventorship is reflected on the face of the patent.

Should there be any questions regarding this Petition, the deciding official is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
H. KETTLER et al

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Abraham HersHKovitz', written over a horizontal line.

Abraham HersHKovitz  
Reg. No. 45,294

June 6, 2002  
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.  
1941 Roland Clarke Place  
Reston, VA 20191  
703-716-1191 (telephone)  
703-716-1180 (fax)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : H. KETTLER

U.S. Patent No. 6,378,884

Appln. No : 09/584,497

Issued: April 30, 2002

Filed : June 1, 2000

For : VEHICLE STEERING HEAD

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

92236  
JUN 05 2002

GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN PLC

STELLUNGNAHME VON HEINZ  
KETTLER ZUR UNTERSTÜTZUNG  
EINES ANTRAGS AUF ÄNDERUNG DER  
ERFINDERNENNUNG NACH 37 C.F.R.  
1.324(a)

STATEMENT OF HEINZ KETTLER IN  
SUPPORT OF PETITION TO CHANGE  
INVENTORSHIP UNDER 37 C.F.R.  
1.324(a)

Ich, Heinz Kettler, als Unterzeichnete und  
deutscher Staatsbürger, stelle folgendes zur  
Unterstützung eines Antrags nach 37 C.F. R.  
1.324(a) fest:

I, the undersigned, Heinz KETTLER, a  
citizen of Germany, state the following in support  
of a Petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.324(a):

1. Ich bin einer der Miterfinder des  
Gegenstandes, der in der oben  
erwähnten Anmeldung Nr. 09/584,497  
beansprucht wurde, die U.S. Patent Nr.  
6,378,884 wurde.
2. Ich stimme dieser Änderung der  
Erfindernennung zu, d.h. der  
Hinzufügung von Joachim KETTLER  
und Reinhard ROCHOLL als  
Miterfinder der oben erwähnten  
Erfindung.
3. Ich war letztlich für die Entwicklung der  
in der oben erwähnten Anmeldung  
erfassten Erfindung verantwortlich.  
Entsprechend habe ich zu der  
Entwicklung der Erfindung wie folgt  
beigetragen:

1. That I am one of the co-inventors  
of the subject matter claimed in  
the above-identified Application  
No. 09/584,497, which matured  
into U.S. Patent No. 6,378,884
2. That I agree to the change of  
inventorship, i.e., the addition of  
Joachim KETTLER and Reinhard  
ROCHOLL as co-inventors in the  
above-identified patent.
3. That I had ultimate responsibility  
for the development of the  
invention covered by the above-  
identified application and as such,  
I contributed in the following  
manner to the development of the  
invention:



- a. Ich nahm an Sitzungen mit den Miterfindern Joachim KETTLER und Reinhard ROCHOLL teil, bei den wir den Fortschritt bei der Entwicklung der Erfindung sowie notwendige Abwandlungen besprachen. Bei diesen Sitzungen habe ich bestimmte Probleme bei der von ihnen studierten Vorrichtung festgestellt.

Nach der Vervollständigung eines Prototyps der Vorrichtung, traf ich mit Joachim KETTLER und Reinhard ROCHOLL zusammen, um die Vorteile der Vorrichtung zu besprechen. Es wurde entschieden, Patentschutz für die Vorrichtung entsprechend der Erfindung weiterzuverfolgen.

27.5.02  
Datum Heinz  
Heinz KETTLER

- a. I attended meetings with co-inventors Joachim KETTLER and Reinhard ROCHOLL, at which time we discussed progress on the development of the invention and necessary modifications. At these meetings, I identified certain problems with the apparatus they were studying.

- b. Upon completion of a prototype of the apparatus, I met with Joachim KETTLER and Reinhard ROCHOLL to discuss the advantages of the apparatus and a decision was made to pursue patent protection for the apparatus according to the invention.

27.5.02  
Date Heinz  
Heinz KETTLER

# Declaration and Power of Attorney For Utility or Design Patent Application

## Erklärung für Patentanmeldungen zur Gebrauchseignung und Entwicklung mit Vollmacht

### German Language Declaration

Als nachstehend benannter Erfinder erkläre ich hiermit an Eides Statt:

daß mein Wohnsitz, meine Postanschrift und meine Staatsangehörigkeit, die ich im nachstehenden nach meinem Namen angegebenen Angaben entsprechen, daß ich nach bestem Wissen der ursprüngliche, erste und alleinige Erfinder (falls nachstehend nur ein Name angegeben ist) oder ein ursprünglicher, erster und Mit-Erfinder (falls nachstehend mehrere Namen aufgeführt sind) des Gegenstandes bin, für den dieser Antrag gestellt wird und für den ein Patent für die Erfindung mit folgendem Titel beantragt wird:

FAHRZEUG-LENKKOPF

deren Beschreibung hier beigelegt ist, es sei denn (in diesem Falle ☐ für das ☐ ankreuzen), diese Erfindung

☐ wurde angemeldet am 1 Juni 2000  
unter der US-Anmeldenummer 09/584,497  
und unter Patent No. U.S. 6,378,834 B1  
oder

☐ unter der PCT Internationalen Anmeldungsnummer                       
und wurde am                      abgeändert (falls zutreffend).

Ich bestätige hiermit, daß ich den Inhalt der oben angegebene Patentbeschreibung, einschließlich der Ansprüche, die eventuell abgeändert oder erwähnten Zusatzantrag abgeändert wurde, durchgesehen und verstanden habe.

Ich anerkenne meine Pflicht zur Offenbarung jeglicher Informationen, die die Ausführung der Patentfähigkeit in Einklang mit Titel 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 von Belang sind.

Ich beanspruche hiermit ausländische Prioritätsvorteile gemäß Title 35, U.S. Code, § 119 (a)-(d), bzw. § 365(b) aller unten aufgeführten ausländischen Anmeldungen für Patente oder Erfinderurkunden, oder § 119(a) aller PCT Internationalen Anmeldungen, welche wenigstens ein Land außer den Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika benennen, und habe nachstehend durch ankreuzen sämtliche ausländischen Anmeldungen für Patente bzw. Erfinderurkunden oder PCT internationale Anmeldungen angegeben, deren Anmeldetag dem der Anmeldung, für welche Priorität beansprucht wird, vorangeht.

Foreign Applications  
Ausländische Anmeldungen

Number	Country	(Country)
1	GERMANY	(Land)
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		

☐ Zusätzliche einschlägige Anwendungsnummern sind im Prioritätsantrag aufgeführt.

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

VEHICLE STEERING HEAD

the specification of which is attached hereto unless the following box is checked:

☐ was filed on June 1, 2000 as  
United States Application Number 09/584,497  
now patent No. U.S. 6,378,834 B1  
or

☐ PCT International Application Number                       
and was amended on                      (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority under Title 35, United States Code § 119 (a-d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or § 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below. I have also identified below, by checking the ANo# box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Priority Claimed  
Prioritätsanspruch

Number	Country	(Country)	Day/Month/Year Filed	(Tag/Monat/Jahr der Anmeldung)	Yes	No
1	GERMANY	(Land)	5/15/1999		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

☐ Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority sheet attached hereto.



## German Language Utility or Design Patent Application Declaration

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, US-Code, § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

(Application Number)  
(Anmeldungsnummer)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)  
(Tag/Monat/Jahr der Anmeldung)

(Application Number)  
(Anmeldungsnummer)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)  
(Tag/Monat/Jahr der Anmeldung)

(Application Number)  
(Anmeldungsnummer)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)  
(Tag/Monat/Jahr der Anmeldung)

I, Zusatz, die einstweilige Anmeldungsnummern sind im ergänzenden Prioritätsanhang aufgeführt.

9 Additional provisional application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority sheet attached hereto.

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, US-Code, § 120 of any United States application(s), or § 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 120 of any United States application(s), or § 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

(Application No.)  
(Anmeldungsnummer)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)  
(Tag/Monat/Jahr eingereicht)

(Status)  
(patentiert, schwebend, aufgegeben)  
(patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application No.)  
(Anmeldungsnummer)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)  
(Tag/Monat/Jahr eingereicht)

(Status)  
(patentiert, schwebend, aufgegeben)  
(patented, pending, abandoned)

I, Zusatz, die USA oder internationale Anmeldungsnummern sind im ergänzenden Prioritätsanhang aufgeführt.

9 Additional U.S. or international application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority sheet attached hereto.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

The undersigned hereby authorizes the U.S. attorney or agent named herein to accept and follow instructions from either his foreign patent agent or corporate representative, if any, as to any action to be taken in the Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorney or agent and the undersigned. In the event of a change in the persons from whom instructions

The undersigned hereby authorizes the U.S. attorney or agent named herein to accept and follow instructions from either his foreign patent agent or corporate representative, if any, as to any action to be taken in the Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorney or agent and the undersigned. In the event of a change in the persons from whom instructions

Wenn die Anweisungen angenommen werden mögen, dann wird  
der hiesige USA-Anwalt oder Stellvertreter entsprechend von  
Ihnen benachrichtigt.

may be taken, the U.S. attorney or agent named herein will  
be so notified by the undersigned.

## German Language Utility or Design Patent Application Declaration

**VERTRETUNGSVOLLMACHT:** Als benannter Erfinder bestätige ich hiermit den sich mit der Kundennummer [ ] versehenen Patentanwalt (Patentanwälte) und/oder [ ] die Agenten mit der Verfolgung der vorliegenden Patentanmeldung sowie mit der Abwicklung aller damit verbundenen Geschäfte vor dem Patent- und Warenzeichenamt und weise an, dass die Korrespondenz mit dieser Kundennummer adressiert wird.

**POWER OF ATTORNEY:** As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the attorney(s) and/or agent(s) associated with the Customer Number provided below to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, and direct that all correspondence be addressed to that Customer Number.

KUNDENNUMMER 7055

CUSTOMER NUMBER 7055

Die genannten Patentanwälte sind zur Zeit:

Reinhold F. Greenblum Reg. No. 28,394  
 Hans H. Bernstein Reg. No. 29,027  
 Arnold Turk Reg. No. 33,094  
 James L. Rowland Reg. No. 32,674

The appointed attorneys presently include:

Stephen M. Roylance Reg. No. 31,296  
 Leslie J. Papetner Reg. No. 33,329  
 William Pieprz Reg. No. 33,630  
 William E. Lyddene Reg. No. 41,568

Address: Greenblum & Bernstein, P.L.C.  
 1941 Roland Clarke Place  
 Reston, VA 20191

Telefonansprache bitte richten an:

Direct Telephone Calls to:

Greenblum & Bernstein, P.L.C.  
 (703) 716-1191

Vollständige Nennung des einzigen oder ersten Erfinders:

Heinz KETTLER

Full name of sole or first inventor

Heinz KETTLER

Unterschrift des Erfinders

Datum

27.6.02

Inventor's signature

Date

Wohnort:

Ense-Parsit, DEUTSCHLAND

Residence

Ense-Parsit, GERMANY

Staatsangehörigkeit:

DEUTSCHLAND

Citizenship

GERMANY

Postanschrift:

Hauptstrasse 28, D-59469 Ense-Parsit, DEUTSCHLAND

Post Office Address

Hauptstrasse 28, D-59469 Ense-Parsit, GERMANY

Vollständige Nennung des zweiten Miterfinders (falls zutreffend):

Joachim KETTLER

Full name of second joint inventor, if any

Joachim KETTLER

Unterschrift des zweiten Erfinders

Datum

27.05.2002

Second Inventor's Signature

Date

Wohnort:

Werl, DEUTSCHLAND

Residence

Werl, GERMANY

Staatsangehörigkeit:

DEUTSCHLAND

Citizenship

GERMANY

Postanschrift:

Am Grueggelgraben 8, Postfach 1863, D-59448 Werl, DEUTSCHLAND

Post Office Address

Am Grueggelgraben 8, Postfach 1863, D-59448 Werl, GERMANY

Bitte ergänzende Informationen und Unterschriften im Falle von dritten und weiteren Miterfindern angeben.

(Supply similar information and signature for third and subsequent joint inventors).

## German Language Utility or Design Patent Application Declaration

Vor- und Nachname des dritten Miterfinders: Reinhard ROCHOLLE		Full name of third inventor, if any Reinhard ROCHOLLE	
Unterschrift des dritten Erfinders <i>[Signature]</i>	Datum 27.05.02	Third Inventor's signature	Date
Wohnort Werl, DEUTSCHLAND		Residence Werl, GERMANY	
Staatsangehörigkeit DEUTSCHLAND		Citizenship GERMANY	
Postanschrift Am Grueggelgraben 8, Postfach 1863, D-59448 Werl, DEUTSCHLAND		Post Office Address Am Grueggelgraben 8, Postfach 1863, D-59448 Werl, GERMANY	
Vor- und Nachname des vierten Miterfinders (falls zutreffend)		Full name of fourth inventor, if any	
Unterschrift des vierten Erfinders	Datum	Fourth Inventor's Signature	Date
Wohnort		Residence	
Staatsangehörigkeit		Citizenship	
Postanschrift		Post Office Address	
Vor- und Nachname des fünften Miterfinders (falls zutreffend)		Full name of fifth inventor, if any	
Unterschrift des fünften Erfinders	Datum	Fifth Inventor's Signature	Date
Wohnort		Residence	
Staatsangehörigkeit		Citizenship	
Postanschrift		Post Office Address	
Vor- und Nachname des sechsten Miterfinders (falls zutreffend)		Full name of sixth inventor, if any	
Unterschrift des sechsten Erfinders	Datum	Sixth Inventor's signature	Date
Wohnort		Residence	
Staatsangehörigkeit		Citizenship	
Postanschrift		Post Office Address	
Bitte ergänzende Informationen und Unterschriften im Falle		(Supply similar information and signature for seventh and	

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, Joachim KETTLER, a citizen of Germany, whose post office address is Am Grueggelgraben 8, Postfach 1863, D-59448 Werl, Germany, and Reinhard ROCHOLL, a citizen of Germany, whose post office address is Am Grueggelgraben 8, Postfach 1863, D-59448 Werl, Germany, hereinafter referred to as the ASSIGNOR, has invented a certain improvement relating to

**VEHICLE STEERING HEAD,**

which issued on April 30, 2002, as U.S. Patent No. 6,378,884.

AND WHEREAS, Heinz Kettler GmbH & Co., a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Germany, whose post-office address is Hauptstrasse 28, D-59469 Ense-Parsit, Germany, hereinafter known as the ASSIGNEE, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest for the United States, in and to said invention and application, including any and all divisions and continuations thereof, and any and all Letters Patent which may be granted thereon, including any and all renewals, reissues, and prolongations thereof.

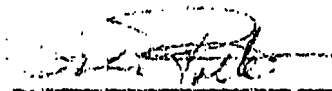
NOW, THIS WITNESSETH that for and in consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, said ASSIGNOR hereby assigns, sells and transfers to said ASSIGNEE, its assigns and legal representatives, the entire and exclusive right, title and interest in and to said invention and application, for the United States, including any and all divisions and continuations thereof, and any and all Letters Patent which may be granted therefor, said ASSIGNEE and its assigns and legal representatives to have, hold, exercise and enjoy the said invention and application, including any and all divisions and continuations thereof, and any and all Letters Patent which may be granted thereon, including any and all renewals, reissues and prolongations thereof, with all the rights, powers, privileges, and advantages in any ways arising from or pertaining thereto, for and during the term or terms of any and all such Letters Patent when granted, including any and all renewals, reissues, and prolongations thereof, for the use and benefit of said ASSIGNEE and its assigns and legal representatives in as ample and beneficial a manner as all intents and purposes as the said ASSIGNOR might or could have held and enjoyed the same, if this assignment had not been made.

AND said ASSIGNOR hereby agrees to execute all papers necessary to file applications in the United States for said invention and to assign the same to said ASSIGNEE, or any assignee acquiring title to said invention, and to execute any other papers that may be needed in connection with filing said application and securing Letters Patent thereon.

AND said ASSIGNOR authorizes and requests the Commissioner of Patents to issue Letters Patent on any and all divisions and continuations thereof, to said ASSIGNEE, its assigns and legal representatives, in accordance herewith.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, this assignment is executed by Joachim KETTLER, this 27 day of 05 2002, at Am Grueggelgraben 8, Postfach, 1863 D-59448 Werl, Germany

First Witness:



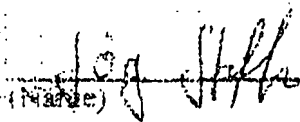
(Name)

27.05.2002

(Date)

  
Joachim KETTLER

Second Witness:



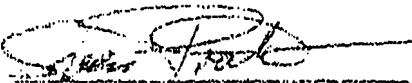
(Name)

27.05.2002

(Date)

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, this assignment is executed by **Reinhard ROCHOLL**,  
 this 27 day of 05 2002, at Am Grueggelgraben 8, Postfach 1863,  
 D-59448, Werl, Germany

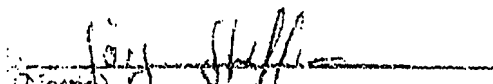
First Witness:

  
 (Name)

27.05.2002  
 (Date)

  
**Reinhard ROCHOLL**

Second Witness:

  
 (Name)

27.05.2002  
 (Date)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : H. KETTLER

U.S. Patent No.: 6,378,834

Appl. No : 09/584,497

Issued: April 30, 2002

Filed : June 1, 2000

For : VEHICLE STEERING HEAD

ASSIGNEE'S CONSENT TO CORRECTION OF INVENTORSHIP

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

The undersigned, who is empowered to act on behalf of the actual assignee of the above-referenced patent, represents that the assignee, Heinz Kettler GmbH & Co., is the owner of the entire right, title and interest, as evidenced by an assignment having a Recordation Date of June 1, 2000, at Reel 010858, Frame 0316, and hereby consents to have the inventorship of the above-referenced patent corrected by adding, as inventors, Reinhard ROCHOLL, a citizen of Germany, whose post office address is Am Grueggelgraben 8, Postfach 1863, D-59448 Werl, Germany, and Joachim KETTLER, a citizen of Germany, whose post office address is Am Grueggelgraben 8, Postfach 1863, D-59448 Werl, Germany.



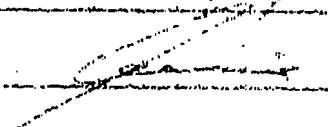
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Respectfully submitted,  
Heinz Kettler GmbH & Co.

Date 27. Jan. 2002

Name Manfred Sailer

Title Prokurist / Vice President

X Signature 

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : H. KETTLER

U.S. Patent No.: 6,378,884

Appln. No : 09/584,497

Issued: April 30, 2002

Filed : June 1, 2000

For : VEHICLE STEERING HEAD

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks.  
Washington, D.C. 20231**STELLUNGNAHME VON REINHARD  
ROCHOLL ZUR UNTERSTÜTZUNG  
EINES ANTRAGS AUF ÄNDERUNG DER  
ERFINDERNENNUNG NACH 37 C.F.R.  
1.324(a)****STATEMENT OF REINHARD  
ROCHOLL IN SUPPORT OF PETITION  
TO CHANGE INVENTORSHIP UNDER  
37 C.F.R. 1.324(a)**

Ich, Reinhard ROCHOLL, als Unterzeichnete und deutscher Staatsbürger, stelle folgendes zur Unterstützung eines Antrags nach 37 C.F. R. 1.324(a) fest:

I, the undersigned, Reinhard ROCHOLL, a citizen of Germany, state the following in support of a Petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.324(a):

1. Ich bin einer der Miterfinder des Gegenstandes, der in der oben erwähnten Anmeldung Nr. 09/584,497 beansprucht wurde, die U.S. Patent Nr. 6,378,884 wurde.
2. Der Fehler bei der Erfindernennung, d.h. das Versäumnis, mich als Miterfinder in der oben erwähnten Anmeldung aufzunehmen, die später ein Patent wurde, ist ohne betrügerische Absichten meinerseits gemacht worden. Insbesondere habe ich nicht verstanden, daß nach U.S.-Patentrecht alle Erfinder des in einer Anmeldung beanspruchten Gegenstandes in einer Patentanmeldung für das U.S.-Patent- und Markenamt zu nennen sind.

1. That I am one of the co-inventors of the subject matter claimed in the above-identified Application No. 09/584,497, which matured into U.S. Patent No. 6,378,884.
2. That the inventorship error, i.e., the failure to have me included as a co-inventor in the above-identified application which matured into a patent, occurred without any deceptive intention on my part. More particularly, I did not appreciate the fact that under U.S. patent laws, all inventors of subject matter claimed in a patent application must be named in an application for patent in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

3. Als Leiter der Forschungsabteilung bei WKW Werler Kunststoff-Werke GmbH & Co., einer unabhängigen hundertprozentigen Tochtergesellschaft von Heinz Kettler GmbH & Co., war ich für die Entwicklung der Erfindung entsprechend dem oben erwähnten Patent verantwortlich. Entsprechend habe ich zu der Entwicklung der Erfindung wie folgt beigetragen:

- a. Ich nahm an Sitzungen mit Joachim KETTLER und Heinz KETTLER teil, bei den wir den Fortschritt bei der Entwicklung der Erfindung sowie notwendige Abwandlungen besprachen. Heinz KETTLER hat bestimmte Probleme bei der von uns studierten Vorrichtung festgestellt.
- b. Zusammen mit Joachim KETTLER, haben wir Zeichnungen gemacht, die die Grundlage der Erfindung bildeten.
- c. Unter meiner Leitung sowie der von Joachim KETTLER haben Techniker aus unserer Abteilung Zeichnungen nach unseren Skizzen angefertigt sowie einen Prototyp der Vorrichtung gebaut.
- d. Nach der Vervollständigung eines Prototyps der Vorrichtung, traf ich mit Joachim KETTLER und Heinz KETTLER zusammen, um die Vorteile der Vorrichtung zu besprechen. Es wurde entschieden, Patentschutz für die Vorrichtung entsprechend der Erfindung weiterzuverfolgen.

3. That as head of the Research Department at WKW Werler Kunststoff-Werke GmbH & Co., an independent wholly owned subsidiary of Heinz Kettler GmbH & Co., I had responsibility for the development of the invention covered by the above-identified application and as such, I contributed in the following manner to the development of the invention:

- a. I attended meetings with Joachim KETTLER and Heinz KETTLER, at which time we discussed progress on the development of the invention and necessary modifications. Heinz Kettler identified certain problems with the apparatus we were studying.
- b. Jointly with Joachim KETTLER, we drew sketches of the apparatus which formed the basis of the invention.
- c. Under my direction and that of Joachim KETTLER, technicians in our department prepared drawings from our sketches and built a prototype of the apparatus.
- d. Upon completion of the prototype, I met with Joachim KETTLER and Heinz Kettler to discuss the advantages of the apparatus and a decision was made to pursue patent protection for the apparatus according to the invention.

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- e. Mir war zwar bewußt, daß eine Patentanmeldung in den USA eingereicht werden sollte. Ich habe aber nicht verstanden, daß ich als erfinderischer Mitwirkende bei der beanspruchten Erfindung nach U.S. Patentrecht als Miterfinder genannt werden mußte.

- e. I was aware that a patent application was to be filed in the United States, but did not appreciate the fact that, as an inventive contributor to the invention claimed, U.S. patent laws required that I be named as a co-inventor.

6.06.02

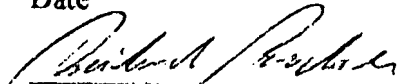
Datum



Reinhard ROCHOLL

6.06.02

Date



Reinhard ROCHOLL

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : H. KETTLER

U.S. Patent No.: 6,378,884

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Issued: April 30, 2002

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For : VEHICLE STEERING HEAD

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**STELLUNGNAHME VON JOACHIM  
KETTLER ZUR UNTERSTÜTZUNG  
EINES ANTRAGS AUF ÄNDERUNG DER  
ERFINDERNENNUNG NACH 37 C.F.R.  
1.324(a)**

Ich, Joachim Kettler, als Unterzeichnete und deutscher Staatsbürger, stelle folgendes zur Unterstützung eines Antrags nach 37 C.F.R. 1.324(a) fest:

1. Ich bin einer der Miterfinder des Gegenstandes, der in der oben erwähnten Anmeldung Nr. 09/584,497 beansprucht wurde, die U.S. Patent Nr. 6,378,884 wurde.
2. Der Fehler bei der Erfindernennung, d.h. das Versäumnis, mich als Miterfinder in der oben erwähnten Anmeldung aufzunehmen, die später ein Patent wurde, ist ohne betrügerische Absichten meinerseits gemacht worden. Insbesondere habe ich nicht verstanden, daß nach U.S.-Patentrecht alle Erfinder des in einer Anmeldung beanspruchten Gegenstandes in einer Patentanmeldung für das U.S.-Patent- und Markenamt zu nennen sind.

**STATEMENT OF JOACHIM KETTLER IN  
SUPPORT OF PETITION TO CHANGE  
INVENTORSHIP UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.324(a)**

I, the undersigned, Joachim KETTLER, a citizen of Germany, state the following in support of a Petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.324(a):

1. That I am one of the co-inventors of the subject matter claimed in the above-identified Application No. 09/584,497, which matured into U.S. Patent No. 6,378,884.
2. That the inventorship error, i.e., the failure to have me included as a co-inventor in the above-identified application which matured into a patent, occurred without any deceptive intention on my part. More particularly, I did not appreciate the fact that under U.S. patent laws, all inventors of subject matter claimed in a patent application must be named in an application for patent in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

3. Als Mitglied der Forschungsabteilung bei WKW Werler Kunststoff-Werke GmbH & Co., einer unabhängigen hundertprozentigen Tochtergesellschaft von Heinz Kettler GmbH & Co., habe ich eng mit Reinhard ROCHOLL als Mitglied einer Arbeitsgemeinschaft zusammengearbeitet, die für die Entwicklung der Erfindung entsprechend dem oben erwähnten Patent verantwortlich war. Entsprechend habe ich zu der Entwicklung der Erfindung wie folgt beigetragen:
- a. Ich nahm an Sitzungen mit Reinhard ROCHOLL und Heinz KETTLER teil, bei den wir den Fortschritt bei der Entwicklung der Erfindung sowie notwendige Abwandlungen besprachen. Heinz KETTLER hat bestimmte Probleme bei der von uns studierten Vorrichtung festgestellt.
  - b. Zusammen mit Reinhard ROCHOLL haben wir Zeichnungen der Vorrichtung gemacht, die die Grundlage für die Erfindung bildeten.
  - c. Unter meiner Leitung sowie der von Reinhard ROCHOLL haben Techniker aus unserer Abteilung Zeichnungen nach unseren Skizzen angefertigt sowie einen Prototyp der Vorrichtung gebaut.
  - d. Nach der Vervollständigung eines Prototyps der Vorrichtung, traf ich mit Reinhard ROCHOLL und Heinz KETTLER zusammen, um die Vorteile der Vorrichtung zu besprechen. Es wurde entschieden, Patentschutz für die Vorrichtung entsprechend der Erfindung weiterzuverfolgen.

3. That as a member of the Research Department at WKW Werler Kunststoff-Werke GmbH & Co., an independent wholly owned subsidiary of Heinz Kettler GmbH & Co., I worked closely with Reinhard ROCHOLL, as part of a team having responsibility for the development of the invention covered by the above-identified patent and as such, I contributed in the following manner to the development of the invention:
- a. I attended meetings with Reinhard ROCHOLL and Heinz KETTLER, at which time we discussed progress on the development of the invention and necessary modifications. Heinz Kettler identified certain problems with the apparatus we were studying.
  - b. Jointly with Reinhard ROCHOLL, we drew sketches of the apparatus which formed the basis of the invention.
  - c. Under my direction and that of Reinhard ROCHOLL, technicians in our department prepared drawings from our sketches and built a prototype of the apparatus.
  - d. Upon completion of the prototype, I met with Reinhard ROCHOLL and Heinz Kettler to discuss the advantages of the apparatus and a decision was made to pursue patent protection for the apparatus according to the invention.

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e. Mir war zwar bewußt, daß eine Patentanmeldung in den USA eingereicht werden sollte. Ich habe aber nicht verstanden, daß ich als erfunderischer Mitwirkende bei der beanspruchten Erfindung nach U.S. Patentrecht als Miterfinder genannt werden mußte.

e. I was aware that a patent application was to be filed in the United States, but did not appreciate the fact that, as an inventive contributor to the invention claimed, U.S. patent laws required that I be named as a co-inventor.

06.06.2002

Datum

Joachim Kettler  
Joachim KETTLER06.06.2002

Date

Joachim Kettler  
Joachim KETTLER**RECEIVED**

JUN 06 2002

GREENBLUM &amp; BERNSTEIN PLC